

TOTAL LOSS OF A FRENCH MAIL STEAMER.

Rumours were afloat in the colony yesterday afternoon to the effect that the small mail steamer *Sophistis*, which left Saigon on Monday, had come to grief and been obliged to put back for repairs. The story was so far amplified as to include the detail that the accident had occurred during a thick fog, a few hours after her departure. On making enquiries, however, at the office of the Agent General, we discovered that the information was, as far as the rumourists knew, quite without foundation; but it had probably arisen out of a telegram received by a private firm of far more serious import. This message conveyed the intelligence that one of the M.M. steamers, a small vessel running on a branch service between Hongkong and Shantung, had been lost in the waters near Pusan-ho. Upon being thus officially informed, the local Agent telegraphed immediately to Colombo for confirmation or denial of the report, and received the reply that the Company's steamer *Nimrod* had been totally lost on her way from Calcutta to Colombo. Fortunately there was no loss of life, every one on board was saved.

SUPREME COURT.

24th January.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. FIELDING CLARKE, CHIEF JUDGE.

IN THE MATTER OF WONG LUN.

This was a motion on behalf of the debtor and his wife, and his solicitor, Mr. G. R. Reuter, Bickelmann & Co., from presenting the debtor and his trustee in the Nambu Magistrate at Canton for the benefit of the debtors.

Mr. Wilkinson appeared for the debtor and his trustee, and Mr. Hastings (for Messrs. Ross, Bickelmann & Co.) appeared for the creditors.

The debtor had made an assignment of his property for the benefit of his creditors and had paid his creditors thereunder 73 per cent. of their claims, but the debt had not been signed or assented to by Messrs. Reuter, Bickelmann & Co.

Mr. Hastings submitted that the debt was because he had complied with the provisions of the Ordinance and because the debtor had not handed over all his property to the trustees, and requested permission to cross-examine the debtor.

Wong Lun was then called and cross-examined by Mr. Hastings. He admitted having sold his books—*i.e.*, his stock of the *Ordnance*—and his wife had given him £100.000.

The debtor had made an assignment of his property for the benefit of his creditors and had paid his creditors thereunder 73 per cent. of their claims, but the debt had not been signed or assented to by Messrs. Reuter, Bickelmann & Co.

Mr. Wilkinson addressed the Court and submitted that even though the debt was held by Messrs. Reuter, Bickelmann & Co., who were bound by their acceptance of the division of 73 per cent.

It is Lordship in giving judgment said he would be grateful for the debtor to have acted honestly and to have thought that if he paid his creditors 73 per cent. he would be released from all claims. That was not at all the effect of the deed which he had signed and which could not have been properly explained to him. The debtor had given up his share of the position of Messrs. Reuter, Bickelmann & Co., or against whom the debt was inscribed, and the motion must therefore be dismissed with costs.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.

THE COLD WAVE OF JANUARY, 1892.

To the Editor of "THE DAILY PRESS": Sir.—"Gravity" suggestion that vertical icebergs on telegraph lines may be due to torsion of the wire owing to the melting of pendular icebergs is very probably true of such cases as he cited, but will not explain vertical icicles on a rigid support. I thank him for the suggestion, which reminds me of overtopping of icebergs when driving snow and by radiation and convection. Under these circumstances it would be difficult to form upright icicles. The conditions under which the phenomena observed the other day were produced were the same as those of the first, but the temperature was lower and fell upon a solid surface and froze there. Any spot which afforded a temporary stopping for the rain drops would form the nucleus for a possible pinnacle, and the icicle would grow up or down with equal facility. It is only because more drops have a tendency to fall from them that they are formed upright. As that time is soon, better for me to do not think so under the light of the present circumstances.

May I take it that in your account you have fully disclosed all your *secrets*?—To the best of my knowledge and belief, The books are made up by Mr. Chink, and I am satisfied with them?—To the best of my personal belief, they are quite right.

I want you to be quite sure of this. Have you gone through them yourself?—I have given them with the proviso that they are made up by a book-keeper appointed by the trustee. I think they are right.

Yours very truly, S.Y.DNEY B. J. SKETCHLEY.

Hongkong, 22th January, 1893.

THE NEW TELEGRAPH CONVENTION.

The N.C. Daily News has received the following official telegram from Lieut. Boehr, Chief Superintendent of the Imperial Chinese Telegraphs:—

TENTHURSDAY, 23rd January.

The Russo-Chinese Telegraph Convention was signed on August 26th last by Vice-Admiral Li and Count Cassini, and ratified by the Emperor of China on September 10th last. It was ratified by the Emperor of Russia on the 3rd inst. The ratifications of the said convention will be opened to the public as soon as the extremely severe winter permits the establishment of the lines of junction on the Siberian frontier.

SMALLPOX AT SHANGHAI.

FORMATION OF A SANITARY BOARD. The following is an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Shanghai Municipal Council held on the 10th inst.:—

The following letter from the Health Officer is ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 7th January, 1893.

Sir.—Your reports of the smallpox, from various sources and as the result of recent enquiry, I am of opinion that small-pox is not among the epidemics at least unusually prevalent among the European population. No cases of smallpox have also occurred recently in the Foreign community.

The return of cases (Foreigners treated) for the month of December follows:—

September, 1 case.

October, 2 cases.

November, 1 case (one death).

December, 11 cases (two deaths).

Since Jan. 1st, 1893, four fresh cases have been admitted to the Hospital. Besides these, a few cases of small-pox in the native houses in the settlement during the past two months.

The return made by the Topos for the settlement of the British Legation, etc., shows that 21 cases of small-pox in December, viz., 11 in Hongkong and 10 in the British Settlement; of these 21 cases, 8 occurred in the native houses in the settlement during the past two months.

The return made by the Topos for the settlement of the British Legation, etc., shows that 21 cases of small-pox in December, viz., 11 in Hongkong and 10 in the British Settlement; of these 21 cases, 8 occurred in the native houses in the settlement during the past two months.

The Chairman continues that at his request Dr. Henderson Capt. McLean, Mr. Mayo, and Mr. T. B. Cameron met him informally a few days since to consider whether they should not constitute themselves into a Sanitary Board in order to keep the Council informed about the sanitary condition of the settlement. It was agreed that the Sanitary Board should be constituted to meet every fortnight when any matter affecting the health of the settlement could be discussed, that regular minutes of these meetings should be kept, and that after each

meeting a report of what took place at it should be sent to this Council.

It is then decided to write to those gentlemen appointing them members of the Sanitary Board—Mercury.

MR. UPTON'S BANKRUPTCY.

DEFICIENCY OF BILL NO. 10. On the 13th inst. in H.B.M.'s Criminal Court for Rygo and Osaka, before Mr. Justice of the Peace, the public examination of Mr. F. N. Upton, jun., a young man from last year, came on for hearing.

There were in Court Mr. H. J. Pearce, representing Messrs. Dodwell, Carrill & Co. and other creditors; Mr. John Crugh, representing the bankrupt; Mr. J. J. Hart, the Agent General, who, as far as the parties know, quite without foundation, but it had probably arisen out of a telegram received by a private firm of far more serious import. This message conveyed the intelligence that one of the M.M. steamers, a small vessel running on a branch service between Hongkong and Shantung, had been lost near Pusan-ho. Upon being thus officially informed, the local Agent telegraphed immediately to Colombo for confirmation or denial of the report, and received the reply that the Company's steamer *Nimrod* had been totally lost on her way from Calcutta to Colombo. Fortunately there was no loss of life, every one on board was saved.

The following report of the examination by Mr. Pearce went into the *Hypo* news:—

"The witness is a young man just now more than 20 years old, and I notice the powers are pretty full of the interesting topic, I very much decline contributing anything more of the subject, and I will refer to it no more than is necessary in explaining that the sailing operations on the two steamers go on side by side, and that our port has been closed, owing to the want of the wind, the weather. However, the two ships have been engaged in saving the fine machinery of the steamer *Kuman*, which has been strongly stored in safe godowns, and is waiting now for a buyer in the Shanghai market. The splendid boiler of this steamer was ready to be taken out of the ship, and the engine has been removed, in saving the fine machinery of the steamer *Kuman*, which has been strongly stored in safe godowns, and is waiting now for a buyer in the Shanghai market. 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TO LET

WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.
HOUSE No. 49, PEAK STREET. Gas laid
on Apply to A. F. J. SOARES,
No. 55, Peel Street,
Hongkong, 11th January, 1893. 153

TO LET

D WELLING HOUSE No. 25, MOSQUE
STREET. Gas and Water laid on.
Apply to 4A, UPPER MOSQUE TERRACE,
Hongkong, 10th January, 1893. 153

TO BE LET

"THE HOMESTEAD," KELLETT RIDGE,
Furnished.
"BEEZY POINT," ROBINSON ROAD,
Furnished or Unfurnished.
"THE MOUNTAIN VIEW," Furnished or
Unfurnished.
ROOMS on SECOND FLOOR of TELEGRAPH
HOUSE. Furnished or Unfurnished.
SUITES & SINGLE ROOMS at KOWLOON
POINT. Furnished or Unfurnished, three minutes'
walk from Steam Ferry every quarter of an
hour.
LAND for COAL STORAGE at WEST
POINT, deep water frontage, and at Kowloon.
NEW GODOWNS, WEST.
GODOWNS at KOWLOON POINT.
Apply to

'SHARP & Co.,
Telegraph House,
Hongkong, 16th November, 1892. 157

TO LET

N O. 3 PEDDER'S HILL.
No. 6, QUEEN'S ROAD (lately occupied
by Atack).
OFFICES in No. 4, PRAYA CENTRAL (lately
occupied by Messrs. Glens & Co.).
Apply to

A. DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Hongkong, 4th January, 1893. 144

TO LET

N O. 5, ELGIN TERRACE.
Apply to LINSTEAD & DAVIS,
Hongkong, 7th January, 1893. 117

TO LET

C NE LARGE FRONT ROOM, 1st Floor,
PRAYA CENTRAL, 14.
Apply to LAUTS, WEGNER & CO.,
Hongkong, 7th January, 1893. 118

TO LET

"CHAGENGOWAN's" Twelve-Roomed
HOUSE on CLIVE ROAD.
Apply to H. J. M. DE CALVALBO,
Hongkong, 24th January, 1893. 253

TO LET

N O. 10, OLD BAILEY.
No. 7, PRAYA CENTRAL, at present
occupied by the New Oriental Bank in Liquidation.
NEW HOUSES in RIFTON TERRACE, BONHAM
ROAD, near Bruce Point.
No. 4, BLUE BUILDINGS,
FLOORS in BLUE BUILDINGS,
OFFICES, SECOND FLOOR, PRAYA
CENTRAL (lately occupied by Messrs. Dunn,
Molby & Co.).
GODOWN, No. 1a, BLUE BUILDINGS,
SEMI-DETACHED HOUSES at MAGA-
ZINE GARDEN. Very cheap rates.
Nos. 21 and 23 CAINE ROAD.
Nos. 4, 5, and 6, VICTORIA VIEW, KOW-
LOON.
FLOURS, No. 5, SHELLY STREET.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 3rd January, 1893. 156

TO LET

N O. 4, ALBANY, suitable for a Family Re-
sidence, containing 5 Bed-rooms.
Apply to LINSTEAD & DAVIS,
Hongkong, 14th January, 1893. 148

TO LET

N O. 2, PEDDER'S STREET, next to the
Post Office. Suitable for Offices or Cham-
bers. Has a small Godown attached. Entry
on or after FEBRUARY 8th.
Apply to G. C. ANDERSON,
11, Praya Central,
Hongkong, 1st December, 1892. 145

TO LET

HOUSES in KNUTSFORD TERRACE, KOW-
LOON.
Apply to THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.,
Hongkong, 1st November, 1892. 158

TO LET

GODOWNS at WANHAL, with good water
frontage, suitable for storing Coal or
Merchandise.
Apply to LINSTEAD & DAVIS,
Hongkong, 28th October, 1892. 141

HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY
LIMITED.

NOTICE.
TO LET.

R OOMS for OFFICES and/or CHAM-
BERS on the Ground and First Floors of
the Hotel, facing QUEEN'S ROAD and PEDDER
STREET. With immediate entry if required.
For particulars, apply to

R. LYALL,
Secretary,
Hongkong, 9th December, 1892. 140

TO LET

G ROUND FLOOR of No. 2, QUEEN'S
ROAD, CENTRAL, formerly occupied by
the Oriental Bank Corporation.
Apply to LINSTEAD & DAVIS,
Hongkong, 30th December, 1892. 143

TO LET

N O. 7, MOUNTAIN VIEW, 5 Rooms.
Enclosed Veranda Gas and Water laid
on. Rent \$40 a month.
CHAMBERS at "WILD DELL BUILDINGS,"
with every convenience.

Apply to HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND
FINANCE COMPANY, LIMITED,
Hongkong, 16th January, 1893. 152

TO LET

N O. 5, WEST TERRACE,
No. 1, QUEEN'S GARDENS.
Apply to G. C. ANDERSON,
13, Praya Central,
Hongkong, 20th September, 1892. 158

TO LET

WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.
THE Large Handsome SHOP, No. 24,
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, formerly occupied by
the Oriental Bank Corporation.
Apply to DAKIN, CRUCKSHANK & CO., LTD.,
Victoria Dispensary,
Hongkong, 3rd August, 1892. 140

TO LET

A. FONG, PHOTOGRAPHER
Has just added to his COLLECTION
of VIEWS some NEW SCENES and Photos
of NATIVE Types, copies of which are obtainable
in the usual way.
Apply to Mr. KELLY & WALSH,
10, Queen's Road, Hongkong.
M. YOUNG, M. & S., Photographic
Enlargements of Pictures and Views, and
reproductions of the same on Paper, Canvas, or
Oral.

INSTANTANEOUS, GEORGE and Pow-
erful cameras in my state of the weather,
and in Perfect Proportion, are executed on
Moderate Terms.

STUDIO—108, HOUSE LANE, 181
BOARD AND RESIDENCE.

COMFORTABLY FURNISHED ROOMS,
with Board.
Apply to Mrs. MATHER,
2, Pedder's Hill,
Hongkong, 1st January, 1892. 152

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

C H A S. H E L D S I E C K ' S
CHAMPAGNE, 1889, White Seal
\$27... per case of 1 dozen quarts.
\$28... per case of 2 dozen pints.
PAUL DU BOIS & Co.'s
CLARET, CHATEAU LABOS.
\$15... per case of 1 dozen quarts.
PALMER MARGAUX.
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SIEMSEN & Co.
Hongkong, 12th November, 1892. 153

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"BEEZY POINT," ROBINSON ROAD,
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ROOMS on SECOND FLOOR of TELEGRAPH
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SUITES & SINGLE ROOMS at KOWLOON
POINT. Furnished or Unfurnished, three minutes'
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It has a large Swimming Pool for visitors
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The Hotel contains 34 Bed-rooms, a Committee
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